

Message Text

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15

ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 PRS-01 SCSE-00 L-02 SY-05 SCCT-01

USSS-00 CU-04 H-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

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P 212150Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KIGALI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

AMCONSUL BUKAVU PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 118960

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:CASC (SMUTS, BARBARA AND KENNETH STEVE SMITH AND
CARRIE HUNTER)

SUBJECT:W/W:THREE AMCITS REPORTEDLY KIDNAPPED: DEPT MAY 21
NOON PRESS BRIEFING

REF: DAR 1586 AND 1577. STATE 117734

FOLLOWING EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE DURING DEPARTMENT'S MAY 21
NOON PRESS BRIEFING

Q BOB, WHILE WE'RE IN THAT SORT OF AREA, ARE YOU
FAMILIAR WITH THE KIDNAPPING IN TANZANIA? HAVE YOU ANYTHING
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TO ADD ON THAT? THE THREE AMERICANS, STANFORD STUDENTS, I

BELIEVE, AT AN ANIMAL RESEARCH CENTER.

A THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN DAR ES SALAAM HAS REPORTED THAT THREE AMERICAN STUDENTS FROM STANFORD UNIVERSITY WERE KIDNAPPED, ALONG WITH A DUTCH STUDENT, FROM THE GOMBE RESEARCH CENTER ON THE NIGHT OF MAY 19-20. THE NAMES OF THE THREE STUDENTS ARE: BARBARA SMUTS OF ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN; KENNETH STEVEN SMITH OF GARDEN GROVE, CALIFORNIA; AND CARRIE HUNTER OF ATHERTON, CALIFORNIA.

THIS GAME RESEARCH CENTER, I UNDERSTAND, IS LOCATED 17 MILES NORTH OF THE TOWN OF KIGOMA ON THE SHORES OF LAKE TANGANYIKA, AND IS ACCESSIBLE ONLY BY BOAT. IT'S THE LOCATION OF A STANFORD UNIVERSITY PROJECT CONNECTED WITH RESEARCH DONE BY JANE GOODALL.

THE EMBASSY REPORTED THAT, ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION IT HAD, ARMED PERSONS ARRIVED AT THE CENTER BY BOAT. THEY BEAT UP SOME OF THE LOCAL STAFF. AND THEY KIDNAPPED THE FOUR PERSONS AT GUN POINT; TAKING THEM TO THE BOATS.

Q YOU SAY THEY ARRIVED BY BOAT?

A YES.

Q AND THEY GOT MORE BOATS?

A THE CENTER IS ONLY ACCESSIBLE BY BOAT.

Q BUT IS IT ONE OR MORE BOATS?

A THE INFORMATION I HAVE IS "BOATS".

OUR EMBASSY IN DAR ES SALAAM IS IN TOUCH WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS IN AN EFFORT TO DETERMINE WHO THE KIDNAPPERS ARE AND WHAT THEIR REASONS FOR THE KIDNAPPING MAY BE. EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO SECURE THE STUDENTS' RELEASE.

I UNDERSTAND THAT TEN OTHER STANFORD UNIVERSITY STUDENTS INVOLVED IN THIS PROJECT WILL BE LEAVING THE GOMBE AREA AS SOON AS TRANSPORTATION CAN BE ARRANGED.
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Q WERE THERE ANY MESSAGES OR NOTES?

A NOT THAT I'M AWARE OF.

Q ANY DECLARATION?

A NO.

Q DOES ANYBODY KNOW THE NATIONALITY OF THESE PERSONS?

A THEY ARE BELIEVED TO BE LOCAL PEOPLE.

Q TANZANIANS AND NOT UGANDANS?

A THE ONLY INFORMATION I HAVE IS THAT THEY WERE DESCRIBED AS ARMED AFRICANS.

Q BOB, WERE ANY OF THE OTHERS HARMED, NOT ONLY THOSE WHO WERE KIDNAPPED?

A I JUST DON'T HAVE ANY MORE DETAILS.

Q DID YOU SAY JANE GOODALL IS THE DIRECTOR OR OPERATOR OF THIS?

A THE STANFORD PROJECT IS CONNECTED WITH THE PROJECT AND THE RESEARCH DONE BY MISS GOODALL. WHETHER SHE WAS PRESENT AT THIS TIME I DON'T KNOW.

Q DO YOU KNOW IF ANY OF THESE OTHER TEN WERE PRESENT? DID THEY PICK UP ALL THE WESTERNERS THEY COULD FIND?

A I JUST DON'T HAVE ANY MORE DETAILS THAN I GAVE YOU. WHETHER THEY WERE ALL TOGETHER AT THE TIME OF THE KIDNAPPING OR THEY WERE IN SEPARATE AREAS I JUST DON'T KNOW.

Q DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE DID IT?
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A NO. THERE WERE SEVERAL APPARENTLY, BUT NO INDICATION OF THE NUMBERS. INGERSOLL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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